

Appln. No.: NOT YET ASSIGNED
PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please insert the attached one page abstract at the end of the application. (see attached abstract)

Please replace the following header immediately prior to line 1 on page 1 as follows:

Description

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Technical Field

Please replace the following header immediately prior to line 5 on page 1 as follows:

2. Related Art

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 23 on page 3 and ending at line 1 of page 4 with the following rewritten paragraph:

It is the object of the invention, therefore, to invent provide a guide element whose guide surfaces, disposed in several non-parallel planes, can receive a sliding coating in a simple way.

Please insert the following header immediately prior to line 2 on page 4 as follows:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 11 of page 5 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Preferable, the sliding material consists comprises a copper-tin alloy, where it would be advantageous if the copper-tin alloy contains polytetrafluor ethylene (PTFE) and/or graphite as the solid lubricant. In general, a self-lubricating composite sliding material is provided by the highly resistant steel body with a bronze matrix ensuring low abrasion with its homogeneous solid lubricant dispersion, which is extremely suitable for

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the guide elements. The solid lubricant can be finely dispersed or it can be present as agglomerated particles, and it is characterized by a laminar structure as well as low interfacial resistance between opposing molecular boundaries.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 10 on page 6 with the following rewritten paragraph:

The method for the production of a guide element includes ~~consists of~~ pre-fabricating a sliding strip consisting of a carrier material and a sliding material placed thereon, and then applying the strip(s) to the guiding surfaces by means of laser welding.

Please insert the following heading immediately prior to line 1 on page 7 as follows:

THE DRAWINGS

Please replace the following paragraph beginning at line 1 on page 7 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Embodiment examples of the invention are explained below in reference to the drawings, wherein:

Please insert the following heading immediately prior to line 12 on page 7 as follows:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Please delete page 11 in its entirety.

Please replace the heading on line 1 of page 12 with as follows:

~~Patent Claims~~

What is claimed is: